The Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle

December, 2017

Southeast Federation
Of Stamp Clubs

American Philatelic Society
Chapter 731
www.stamps.org

Official Journal of the Chattanooga Stamp Club
MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE HICKORY VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 6605 SHALLOWFORD RD., CHATTANOOGA, TN.
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM, MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30 PM -- VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

December 14 ……..…….. Monthly Meeting
Program ……..……..……..…… Swap Session
January 11 ….……..…….. Monthly Meeting
Program ……..….……. Dinner (Postponed from December)

CLUB OFFICERS

President …… Mike Ezell mhezell@gmail.com
Vice-president ….. Jim Hogue jlhoguejr@charter.net
Secretary …… Tom Matuszak tommytwosocks@comcast.net
Treasurer …... Carl Anderson connie_anderson195@epbfi.com
Newsletter …... Gene Bricker gbricker@catt.com
Circuit Books ….. Mike Ezell mhezell@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Chattanooga Stamp Club memberships are on a calendar year basis. Yearly dues are $10.00; send all monetary donations and membership dues to the club's Treasurer:

Mr. Carl Anderson, 919 Dunsinane Rd.
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

THE CHATTANOOGA STAMP CHRONICLE

The Chattanooga Stamp Club is affiliated with the American Philatelic Society. The club has been dedicated to the study, preservation, and promotion of the philatelic hobby since 1932.

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS

The Southeast Federation web site is a source for information about stamp collecting activities in the region. Visit at: **www.sefsc.org/stamp-clubs.html**.

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

American Philatelic Society (APS) is the largest nonprofit stamp collecting Foundation of philately in the world. With about 31,000 members as of 2017 worldwide.
Visit at: **www.Stamps.org.**

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MEETING

The November 9th meeting of the Chattanooga Stamp Club was called to order at 7:25 with the Pledge of Allegiance..

18 members were present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved .

Treasurer reported a balance on hand of $1162.00,, this was also approved.

The December meeting will be a Buy / Sell among the attendees. Circuit Books will also be available.

The January meeting will be our Christmas Dinner , it was moved to this date as a number of people were not going to be in town.

Elections will also take place at the January meeting. Nominations are open and any new people interested would be welcomed.

For December Larry will bring Drinks and Tom will bring Snacks. Jack case will be having surgery and Prayers are requested.

SE Federation is working on a Listing of Speakers and Topics for Stamps Clubs in the Area. If you have a Topic you would like to learn about, suggest it to Dan.

Meeting adjourned for Refreshments before the Auction.
Auction saw 63 Lots being sold for $193.50, bringing our bank balance to $1189.50.

Tom Matuszak

MERRY CHRISTMAS

2018 Dues are due and payable. Send to the treasurer, Carl Anderson.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Auction results: Ten members and the club sold 63 lots for a total of $193.50.
Deposit of $90.25 after the auction
Bank balance: $1189.50

Submitted by Carl Anderson, Treasurer

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Merry Christmas and a safe holiday season!

Mike

From *Stamp Insid*er • November/December 2015

The President's Page
Thomas Auletta
258 Ushers Road, Suite 203
Clifton Park, NY 12065-1428
azusacollectibles@yahoo.com, 518-877-3027

The Cycles of Activity in Stamp Collecting

There has been much discussion in this and other philatelic publications about how to increase interest in our hobby. One big factor to consider is how to resolve the fact that, while it is estimated that there are more than four million stamp collectors in this country, only a small fraction are within mainstream philately (society or club membership, attendance at shows or shops, subscribers to philatelic publications, etc.) We also have to be aware of the increasing numbers of collectors who rely on the internet for their needs.

From my experiences, both as a longtime collector and dealer, I believe that there are other factors to consider in assessing stamp collecting activity. It appears that such activity can be somewhat cyclical — periods of intense interest followed by times of inactivity, and the duration of these can vary widely from very short to, in some cases, years or even decades.

Consider a typical stamp collecting career for most of us. Many of us started out as youngsters, garnering our initial interest from the stamp ads in newspapers, comic books, and magazines. This was a period of intense activity, but as we grew up, our priorities changed, and for a time we did virtually nothing with our collections. Later on, we resumed our interest and the cycles continued. Retirement for many sparked a renewed interest.

The point is that at any one moment only a part of the alleged four million stamp collectors are truly active. If they were all active at the same moment, I do not think that we would be having discussion on what many perceive to be a declining hobby.

I remember that many years ago, a very active collector would come into my shop on a Saturday morning about once a month. He carried his US album, and made a substantial purchase each time. Then he disappeared. Despite repeated mailings and contact attempts, he no longer visited us. About a decade later, he waltzed in with his album on a Saturday morning as if no time had passed. In the intervening years, he had been occupied with three children in college. Now that they were done, he was back to his hobby.

At any one time, only a small percentage of collectors on my monthly mailing list seem to be really active in visiting my shop or the local shows or clubs. Eventually, sometimes after months or years, they seem to show renewed interest.

I believe we can do something to keep these periods of inactivity on the shorter side and thus have more active collectors at any moment. Collectors respond to mailing lists, to advertisements, to emails, etc. These serve as a reminder about their hobby and can spark a renewed interest. Every club, society, shop, show, or publication needs to strive to incorporate both old and new ways to renew and keep interest in our hobby at its maximum. We are probably doing some things right, but we need to do more.

SOUTHEAST REGION STAMP SHOWS

January 26-28 Southeastern Stamp Expo 2018
Southeast Federation of Stamp Shows, An APS World Series of Philately Show, Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Norcross, Georgia, 30092-3416 Contact Scott Mark, sestampexpo@gmail.com, or http://www.sefcs.org/

February 23-25 APS AmeriStamp Expo 2018
American Philatelic Society, Sheraton Birmingham Hotel, 2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd., North, Birmingham, Alabama 35203-1101, Barb Johnson, stampshow@stamps.org, 814-933-3803 ext. 217, https://stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE

March 10-11 Nashville Stamp Show 2018
Nashville Philatelic Society, 50 Forward Madison Station 301 Madison Street, Madison, TN 37115
Nick Munn, 963 Windrowe Drive, Nashville TN 37205-3043, Telephone: (615)430-8954
Email: npsexchr01@gmail.com

August 3-5 Americover 2018
American First Day Cover Society, An APS World Series of Philately Show, Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Norcross, Georgia 30092-3416, Contact Chris Lazaroff, showinfo@afdcs.org, http://www.afdcs.org/show

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MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE ATLANTA SHOW. ALL ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENJOY THE HOSPITALITY ROOM WITH FREE DRINKS AND SNACKS.

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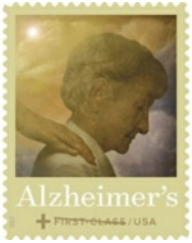
U.S. November New Issues



Alzheimer's Awareness
November 30

WANTED!

Articles for this newsletter are needed! Submit your rough draft of your article and you will be rewarded!

A HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS STAMPS

It is a matter of some debate as to which is the first Christmas stamp. The Canadian map stamp of 1898 bears an inscription "XMAS 1898", but it was actually issued to mark the inauguration of the Imperial Penny Postage rate. The Christmas connection has long been reported to have been the result of quick thinking; William Mulock was proposing that it be issued on 9 November, to "honor the Prince" (meaning the Prince of Wales), but when Queen Victoria asked "what Prince?" in a displeased manner, Mulock realized the danger, and answered "Why, madam, the Prince of Peace."

In 1935, British Forces troops stationed in Egypt were issued with a Christmas stamp for their mail home. For many years these were not included in the Stanley Gibbons catalogues, as they classified them as a “seal” rather than a postage stamp, but they have been properly included since the mid-1960s as they prepaid postage and so, despite the inscription "Letter stamp", are normal stamps, and should therefore be counted as the first stamp issued expressly to mark Christmas. Like the slightly earlier Silver Jubilee overprints on the “sphinx” stamp, the Christmas stamps were issued in booklet form in panes of 20.

In 1937, Austria issued two "Christmas greeting stamps" featuring a rose and zodiac signs. In 1939, Brazil issued four semi-postal stamps with designs featuring the three kings and a star, an angel and child, the Southern Cross and a child, and a mother and child. In 1941

Hungary also issued a semi-postal whose additional fees were to pay for "soldiers' Christmas". The first stamps to depict the Nativity were the Hungary issue of 1943. These were all one-time issues, more like commemorative stamps than regular issues.

The next Christmas stamps did not appear until 1951, when Cuba issued designs with poinsettias and bells, followed by Haiti (1954), Luxembourg and Spain (1955), then Australia, Korea, and Liechtenstein (1957). In cases such as Australia, the issuance marked the first of what became an annual tradition. Many more nations took up the practice during the 1960s, including the United States (1962) and United Kingdom (1966).

By the 1990s, approximately 160 postal administrations were issuing Christmas stamps, mostly on an annual basis. Islamic countries constitute the largest group of non-participants, although the Palestinian Authority has issued Christmas stamps since 1995.

(Ref:https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christmas_stamp)

NEWSPAPER STAMPS

A newspaper stamp is a special type of postage stamp used to pay the cost of mailing newspapers and other periodicals. Although many types were issued in the 19th century, typically representing rates reduced from regular mail, they generally fell out of use in the mid-20th century, as mail services began to arrange bulk handling directly with publishers.

Some of the most beautiful postage stamps ever issued by the United States were not valid for mailing letters and cards.

U.S. Newspapers & Periodicals stamps of 1875

The exact use of newspaper stamps varied; small-value stamps were generally intended to be affixed to newspaper wrappers, in much the fashion of regular mail, but with values usually less than regular stamps. Higher values were used on bundles of newspapers, and later on receipts.

Scott PR114, PR118, & PR120

The first newspaper stamp was issued by Austria in 1851, and a number of nations soon followed suit. The newspaper stamps of the United States, in use from 1865 to 1898, were always intended for bulk shipments, and with face values ranging up to US$100, are the highest-value newspaper stamps.

Newspaper stamps seem to have been printed in great quantities, and almost all types are today inexpensive and easily acquired.

Austria Scott P1

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Post Office Historical Note:

Between 1792 and 1828 the General Post Office (as it was then known) was headed by a postmaster general and guided by Congress. In 1829 the postmaster general's position was elevated to presidential cabinet status, and the service became known as the Post Office Department. The service retained that name until the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, when it became the U.S. Postal Service. The reorganization act removed the postmaster general from the cabinet and eliminated congressional control and funding of the service. The U.S. Postal Service retained its long-standing mandate of universal service, but it is now required to be financially self-sustaining.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE